



**Winners for 2023 Sahebdehan International Theater Festival were announced**

**The performance of Butterfly and Yoke was dedicated to Bahman Farmanara**

Iran Theater- Bahman Farmanara, the veteran director of cinema, visited City Theater Complex and after meeting with Mohammad -Javad Taheri, the manager of complex, he watched the show Butterfly and Yoke written by Mohammad Charamshir and directed by Amir-Mohammad Dashtgolli on June 11.



The production team of "Butterfly and Yoke" which hosted Bahman Farmanara, a famous director of Iranian cinema, on Sunday; dedicated their performance to him. This producer, director, screenwriter and veteran actor of Iranian cinema directed the play "A Man for All Seasons" written by Robert Bolt for 90 nights at Vahdat Hall in 2014. "Butterfly and Yoke" is the second directorial experience of Amir- Mohammad Dashtgolli and it features Amir Hossein Sardaryan, Yashar Beikzadeh, Mahtab Vojdani, Maryam Kia, Alborz Ahmadkhani, Darya Sadat Razvizadeh and Ghazal Hasanazadeh .

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## The strong presence of Armenian artists in the 21st Traditional and Ritual Theater Festival

Iran Theater- Ahmed Joulaie, the artistic director of the 21st Traditional and Ritual Theater Festival, met with a group of Armenian artists in order to provide conditions for cooperation in various sections of the Festival.

Ahmed Joulaie met with Alice Shahmoradian, director of Ardak Manoukian Museum (Museum of Anthropology Armenians), and a group of Armenian artists in order to provide conditions for joint cooperation in various sections of the festival. Iranian and Armenian artists who attended this meeting include: Grigor Babakhani, Greta Aleksanian, Vahagen Hambarsoumian from Armenia, Argin Matosyan (director of the cultural department of Sipan Institute) and Shahin Hovakmiana .

At the beginning of this meeting, Armenian artists invited Iran's theater troupes to participate in the Armenian Theater Festival with the theme of peace and announced plans for the participation of two groups in the 21st International Traditional and Ritual Theater Festival.

"Old Gods" show is one of these works that has been performed by Armenian artists before and is now being translated into Persian.

Ararat theater artists is another theater group that is rehearsing for the festival .

The cooperation of Ardak Manoukian Museum in setting up a booth including clothes, tools and



other performance items of Armenian artists in the side section of the the 21st Traditional and Ritual Theater Festival was mentioned as well.

In this meeting, the books "Contemporary Theater of Egypt" written by Ahmed Joulaie and the book "Shoes of Wisdom" written by Grigor Babakhanian were exchanged between the two authors.

The 21st Traditional and Ritual Theatre Festival will host the audience of various types of ritual and traditional shows in different performance (competitive and non-competitive) and research sections from September 26 to October 3,2023.

## The Wizard of Oz became a bestseller



Iran Theater- The musical show Wizard of Oz designed and directed by Mehdi Ghaleh was one of the best-selling children's shows for the third week.

This show has been staged since Thursday, May11 at 18:30 at Kanoon. It was introduced as one of the three best-selling works of children's and young Adult shows on Tiwall web-

site.

The show "The Wizard of Oz" is written by Anne Coulter Martens and translated by Hossein Fadaei-Hosseini.

When the lights go up and Dorothy finds herself in the land of Oz -- being hailed by the Munchkins for saving them from the Wicked Witch of the East - it is a pretty bewildering experience for a little girl from Kansas

Mojtabi Kazemi, Ali Baigmohammadi, Ali Safa, Sahar Safarpour, Nasim Khosrow-Shahi, Mehdi Mazdarani, Bahare Sahibi and Mehdi Qaleh star in the show.

The crew: Babak Nasirikhah (composer), Laila Parishan (make-up designer), Alireza Hosseinpour (puppet designer), Mehdi Qaleh (decor designer), Mohammadreza Shamlou (light designer), Mehdi Mazdarani (dress designer and tailor) , Leila Asbaghi (assistant director), Farzaneh Alidoost (photographer), Emad Saleki (poster and brochure designer) and Rihaneh Motahari, Rozhin Sattari and Roshank Karimi (public relations)

# Winners for 2023 Sahebdehan International Theater Festival were announced

**Iran Theater- Winners announced at the closing ceremony of 2023 Sahebdehan International Theater Festival.**

The closing ceremony of the 12th Sahebdehan International Theater Festival was held in the city of Qazvin with the presence of the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, on the evening of Thursday, June 22nd, 2023.

The closing ceremony was held with the presence of Mohammad Mehdi Esmaeili (Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance), Mahmood Salari (Deputy of Art Affairs of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance), Kazem Nazari (Director General of Dramatic Arts) ) and by introducing the winners in the central hall of Imam Khomeini International University in Qazvin.

Mohammad Mahdi Esmaeili, the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, said in this ceremony: In the last year, some people sought to close down the cultural and artistic community of the country. But the theater artists had a powerful presence by participating in the theater festivals and the Fadjr International Theater Festival. During this time, the art of theater became a factor of unification and unity and created great pride. He pointed out that Qazvin province hosted the Sahebdehan International event: "Qazvin is one of the most important civilizational and cultural areas of Iran. Whenever we mention the honor and greatness in the history of Iran, surely the name of Qazvin shines in the history.

The member of Supreme Council of the Cultural Revolution continued: "In

recent periods and since the establishment of the Shia civil system and the reshaping of Iran's political geography, this city has been both the capital and many great personalities have risen from it. Some Martyrs of Qazvin include Shahid Rajaei and Babaei, as well as Seyyed Ali- Akbar Abu – Torabi.

Referring to the international section of the Sahebdehan Theater Festival, Esmaeili said: "This event is not a partial program and is held throughout the year. Last year, they proposed to make it international, and the first international section was held in Qazvin with the participation of four foreign groups.

At the end of his speech, the cultural Minister praised the efforts of Mohammad Hossein Faezi, Director General of Culture and Islamic Guidance of Qazvin, for his support, efforts and hosting of the Sahebdehan Theater international Festival.

Mohammad Hossein Faezi also said in a speech: "During 5 days, we hosted about 50 foreign guests from 4 theater groups. During this period, about 42 theatrical, educational and performance programs were held."

Mahmoud Farhang, the Artistic Director of Sahebdehan Theater Festival, offered the statistics and figures of the shows that performed during one year: Since 2010 and the time of Sahebdehan Theater Festival starts, in this big theatrical event, 800 stage shows, 250 street shows, 100 works in the form stage reading and dozens of other valuable works have been performed.

The families of martyrs



Amir- Hossein Alikhani and Hojatollah Asadi were honored in the presence of the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance and the deputy of artistic affairs of this ministry.

Kazem Nazari (Director General of Dramatic Arts of the country) and Mahmoud Farhang (Secretary of Sahebdehan Theater Festival) honored Jalil Farjad, a famous artist of cinema, theater and television, for his contribution to the arts.

Mohammad Bakshinia-Aghazani, a pioneer artist and a Ta'zieh performer, was another artist who was honored.

The theater troupe "Only a Portrait" directed by Uday Alshanfari from Oman, "Halves" by Motamed Yafee from Oman, "Black Box" directed by Majed Darandash from Iraq and "Martyrs do not go to heaven" directed by Sajjad Jozri from Iraq was honored.

#### **Full list of winners:**

**Playwriting:** Babak Vali, Rozbeh Hosseini and Ali Mirzaemadi won the first to third places in the playwriting section, respectively. Neda Sabeti, Kianoosh Ahmadi, Mohammad Reza Shahkarami and Mohsen Rahmani were honored as well.

**Directing:** Shahab Rahaleh (for ten years of efforts in the Sahebdehan

Theater Festival), Mostafa Bouazdar (director of street shows during Arbaeen days in Iran), Mohsen Matinvafa (director of stage shows) and Saeed Zabihi (director of street shows) were honored.

**Acting in stage shows:** Mohammad Sadegh Alaghebandan and Sara Yazdani were honored.

**Street Shows:** Morteza Vakilian and Parveen Malek- Alaei were introduced as the best actor and actress in street shows. Maryam Abdi was another artist who was honored for presenting the design and idea of the street show.

**Radio Drama:** Qadir Tizrou (director), Mohammod Reza Ghabadifar (effector) and Seyed Moin Boi- Afraz (producer) were honored.

Naqqali and Ta'zieh: Hassan Basiri, Abolfazl Varmziar and Ismaeel Mojalali were honored in this section.

**side section:** Saeed Chegini, Fatemeh Alamshahi, Mohammad Abbasi, Reza Dadashi, Amir Ghasemi, Tanaz Rashvandinejad and Mohammad Rafi Sheikh were the artists who were present in the side section of the first international Sahebdehan Theater Festival and were honored in the closing ceremony.

## A memorandum of cooperation between Khuzestan Dramatic Arts Association and Basra Theater Association



Iran Theater-The cooperation agreement between Khuzestan dramatic Arts Association and Basra Theater Association was signed in the presence of Kazem Nazari, Director General of Dramatic Arts Center of Iran in Ahvaz city.

The memorandum of cooperation between the two provinces of Iran and Iraq was signed and exchanged by Ahmad Al-Shamai (Chairman of Basra Theater Association) and Mohammad Yag-

hootpour (Chairman of Khuzestan dramatic Arts Association) with the aim of strengthening the cultural and artistic power of Iranian and Iraqi artists.

This memorandum was signed on the sidelines of the meeting of the heads of Khuzestan dramatic Arts Association in the presence of the Director General of dramatic Arts of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance.

Some of the main goals of the memorandum include taking advantage of useful and

influential experiences, reviving some forgotten forms of performing arts, discovering new artistic methods, as well as the interaction and strengthening of cultural and artistic relations between the two countries.

Kazem Nazari said: "In order to expand the cooperation between Iranian and Iraqi artists, this memorandum was signed between Basra and Khuzestan, and we hope that good things can happen in cultural exchanges."

He added: "The Ministry of Guidance also

supports this memorandum and like last year, we will have theater productions in Iraq. I hope the good artists of the two countries will benefit from this memorandum."

Mohammad Yaghootpour, head of Khuzestan Dramatic Arts Association, said: Signing this memorandum is a pleasure. The cultural affinity of Khuzestan province and Basra province can be the basis for the exchange of performances between Iran and Iraq. Holding the International Arabic Theater Festival is one of the honors of the Dramatic Arts Association of Khuzestan Province, and the signed memorandum can add to its richness and create good days for the theater teachers and artists, as well as the exchange of experiences between the two countries.

Ahmed Al-Shamai, the head of the Basra Theater Association, pointed to the cultural capacities of Iran and Iraq: We hope to use this memorandum in a good way and have good performances in both countries.

## David Ives' s Philadelphia comes to Tehran

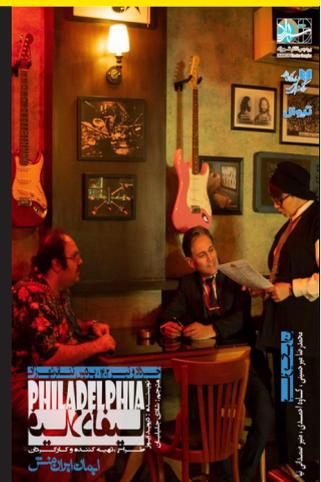
Iran Theater- The play Philadelphia directed by Iman Iranmanesh will be performed at the Shahrazad theater Complex until the 7th of July, 2023.

"Philadelphia" by David Ives and translated by Shadi Jalilian, is a social comedy drama about

the strange events that occur after two old friends meet in a cafe.

David Ives (born July 11, 1950) is an American playwright, screenwriter, and novelist. He is perhaps best known for his comic one-act plays; The New York Times in 1997 referred to him

as the "maestro of the short form". Ives has also written dramatic plays, narrative stories, and screenplays, has adapted French 17th and 18th-century classical comedies, and adapted 33 musicals for New York City's Encores! series.



## Sajad Afsharian to restage the show Back to Black

**Iran Theater- Sajad Afsharian's Back to Black will be performed in the main hall of Tehran's City Theater Complex from the end of July.**

Sajad Afsharian, who is a writer and actor has explained: Back to Black is different from all my past works in terms of structure and performance, and although it tells you an interesting story, it has a fixed story and narrative that constantly uses the imagination of the audience."

Sajad Afsharian is known to the audience of with Sunset Truck ( as writer , 2017), Rookery (2017) and Saint Petersburg (2010).Sajad Afsharian, Niko Bostani and Mehdi Zandieh will star in this show, which has been one of the popular Iranian plays in recent years.Afsharian is playwright and director of the show as well.

The crew: Narges Jajermi (composer), Sajad Afsharian (set and costume designer), Masoud Ranjbarshirazi (light and sound designer), Mohammad- Hossein Ghafari (sound designer), Amir Sedagati (graphic designer), Parham Khakzad (assistant director and programmer), Vahid Kamel (executive director), Mojtaba Farzaneh (project manager), Aryan Amirkhan (social media advertising), Amir Qalichi (public relations), Mehrnoosh Lak (photographer), Amir Hossein Mirzaei (photographer and behind-the-scenes videographer). , Farhad Tavakoli and Babak Safshekan (teaser).



## "Robinson and Crusoe" Comes to Tehran

**Iran Theater- The show "Robinson and Crusoe" opened on June 6 with the presence of some stage and cinema artists at Shahrzad Theater Complex.**

The artists who were present at the opening of the show are Kazem Hejirzad, Shams Langaroudi, Panthea Bahram, Hadi Houri, Reza Ashofete, Sam Kabudovand, Sadaf Espahbodi, Salman Farkhondeh, Amin Miri, Houshmand Honarkar, Hamidreza Qotbi.

A German-based director Alireza Koushk-Jalali designed and wrote the play based on Italian playwrights Nina Dintrona and Giacomo Ravicio's work with the same title. He translated the play into Persian from the original lan-

guage. The play is based on English writer Daniel Defoe's 1719 novel "Robinson Crusoe".

The play has had 700 performances in European countries, while it has also been staged in Tehran, Rasht, Mashhad, Ahvaz and Tabriz before.

"Robinson and Crusoe" is the story of two soldiers, Robinson and Crusoe, cast away on a deserted island.

Two soldiers from different camps stranded together on a roof and surrounded by nothing but a vast ocean in a place to which neither of them belongs.

Koushk Jalali lives in Cologne and has translated other literary works including 'Burning Patience,' a novel by Chilean writer Antonio Skarmeta, 76, and 'The



Government Inspector,' a satirical play by Russian dramatist Nikolai Gogol (1809-1852).

Saeed Barjali and Hossein Jadi star in the show. The crew: Alireza Aghaz (producer), Raha Jahanshahi (executive producer), Seyed Abdulhossein Mirdamad (project manager), Reza Khedraei (lighting designer), Alireza Koushk -Jalali (set and costume designer),

Mohammad Hossein Bayati and Mustafa Jamshidi (poster designer), Bita Joshghani (public relations), Ali Alavi (motion production), Kianoosh Soltanimatin (teaser production and photography), Ardalan Ashnagar (photographer), Sara Bazaz (play supervisor), Mohammad Gharamani (stage manager) and Ali Keyhani (media consultant)

## The enthusiasm of the young Iranian theater artists surprised the Iraqi artist

Iran Theater- The Director of The College of Fine Arts at Basra University expressed his surprise at the enthusiasm of the young Iranian theater artists in the second specialized meeting of Mystics International (Sahebdelan) Theater Festival with Qazvin theater activists and foreign artists.

12 Sahebdelan National Theatre Festival and 1st Sahebdelan International Theater Festival comes to an end in Qazvin during June 18-22.

Meetings between Mahmoud Farhang, the artistic director of Sahebdelan National Theatre Festival and foreign artists, are part of the program of this event. The second meeting was held with the presence of Abdul Karim Abboud (Teacher and The College of Fine Arts at Basra University), two theater groups from Oman and theater activists of Qazvin province at the General Directorate of Culture and Islamic Guidance of Qazvin province.

Mahmoud Farhang said in this meeting: "The thought and effort in organizing the Sahebdelan National Theatre Festival was based on the production of the show, not the competition."

The artist added: With the efforts of the organizers of this event, more than 10 plays have been translated into French and Arabic, and soon the English translation will be published so that it will be available to the artists of other countries, and with this method, ways of interaction, cooperation and acquaintance with Religious and meaningful theater will be smoother.

Mahmoud Farhang said: We hope that Mystics (Saheb-



delan) event can create the cultural exchanges. We also intend to support young and successful directors so that this artistic event is a place for their talents to grow.

Abdul Karim Abboud, Teacher and The College of Fine Arts at Basra University, said that the historical and cultural depth of Iranians is very respectable.

"I am present at this event to hold the workshop "The Intertwining of Theater Culture". The first day of this program was held with the presence of 15 participants, and on the second day, this number reached 45 people, and for me, the enthusiasm of young artists and their welcome was very pleasant and surprising. "

This theater teacher emphasized the need for more cooperation between neighboring countries in the field of dramatic arts.

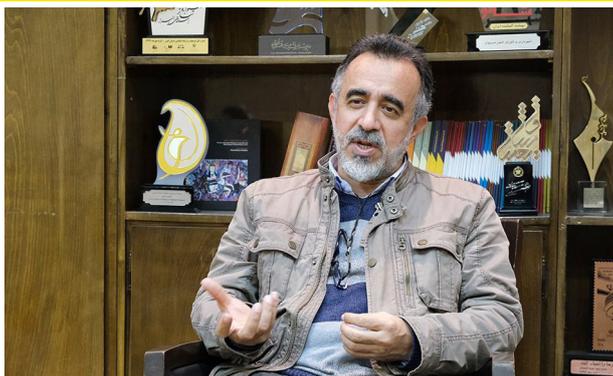
"A memorandum of understanding has been signed to expand the cooperation between the artists of Basra and Khuzestan recently, and I hope that we will get to know more about Iranian theater and take steps for co-productions. "

Oman's theater groups gave a brief description of the performances they will perform on stage as well.

## The secretary of the 42nd Fadjr International Theater Festival to be introduced soon

**Iran Theater-Kazem Nazari, director general of Dramatic arts, announced that the demands of the 41st FITF artists will be paid and the artistic director of the 42nd Fadjr Theater Festival will be announced by next week.**

Fadjr International Theater Festival is one of the most important theater festivals in Iran, which is held February and April in Tehran since 1982. The festival is supervised by the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance. It takes place on the anniversary of the 1979 Islamic Rev-



olution. The 41st Fadjr International Theater Festival was one of the most challenging festivals in the past years. Kourosch Zarei, an actor, film, television and theater director were secretary of 41st FITF and the festival was well spent

under his direction. Some time ago, Kourosch Zarei answered about the payment of cash prizes for artists at the 41st FITF, that with the cooperation of the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, these gifts will be paid soon.

Kazem Nazari said:

"The gifts have been paid and all of them have received their gifts. "

About the selection of the secretary of the 42nd Fadjr Theater Festival, he said: "We have considered people for the secretary of the 42nd edition of the Fadjr International Theater Festival and we are deciding. Two artists have been offered, which we hope they will accept. If the secretary of Fadjr Festival is appointed, we will announce the secretary and the rules of the new course next week; Because this decision has not yet been finalized."

Parizad Saif:

## khoshdelan is based on a real story

Iran Theater-Parizad Saif, the director of the Khoshdelan said that the play by Saeed Poursamimi, is based on a real and historical story.

The play "Khoshdelan" written by Saeed Poursamimi and directed by Parizad Saif has been performed in Iranshahr Theater Complex these days. Parizad Saif said this show is based on a historical event and written based on facts, and it is about Mirzahossein Mosharraf-Esfahani, a poet of the Safavid era. He had a sense of humor and worked in the Safavid court for some time as the manager of the court's transactions and the caretaker of the court's stables. Mosharraf decides to write poems in five volumes, imitating Khamsa of Nizami, and....

Iran Theater talks to Parizad Saif about this show, the play, the directing style, the influence of Saeed Poursamimi.

**What made you decide to direct a comedy show?**

-I don't see the play as a comedy in the sense that we all know comedy. I think the play has irony and is based on a real and historical story. As you can see in the show, we are



witnessing a bitter humor that shows the senselessness of everything. . Even in the show, we find the confusion of language absurd. It's like we hide ourselves behind words.

**why did you choose an Iranian play?**

-More than anything, I liked the theme of the play and now an Iranian author has written it. If you have noticed, this work is written as a Ru-howzi and even has elements of siyah bazi. We have a stage show decor, which is sometimes a platform and sometimes becomes a pond. We have a framework that has doors of different sizes in-

side it, and in fact, the size and smallness of the doors indicate the social rank of people in terms of architecture, which in my opinion are important features of Iranian shows and provide meaning to the audience.

**How did you find Saeed Poursamimi's play?**

-Many people say that we did not know that Mr. Poursamimi is also a writer and it is very attractive to us. After He, I was the first person to read the play. At first, the play was much longer than what you saw on stage. I tried to expand the text at different times without harming the story.

**Compared to the written play, which scene was deleted?**

The deleted scene is the last one; A scene based on Iranian folk dances was designed by Behrouz Pourbarji and rehearsed with the presence of all the cast, which we cut from the show for some reasons . We felt that our mood is not very suitable for extremely happy scenes and the audience may not be able to accept these scenes. I must also say this, the cast are so ready that if we say that they will perform the last scene completely tonight, it will happen perfectly.

## The book "Hidden Power of Monologue" was published

Iran Theater- The book **Hidden power of monologue; A research on the background, types and functions of monologue written and translated by Abbas Ali Ezzati with a look at the position, divisions and definitions of this type of dramatic speech and its ups and downs in the history of drama writing was published by Soroush Publications.**

Throughout the history of Playwriting, the monologue as a dramatic preparation has always been the focus of dramatists, and each of them has given it a special artistic quality and added richness to it according to their own taste and abil-

ity. The high point and the golden age of monologue in the history of drama writing can be considered Shakespeare's period.

Shakespeare uses monologue a lot in his plays, and with his special and unique approach to this dramatic arrangement, he gives it a special quality and expands its functions. In the 20th century and the era of modern playwriting, writers such as Eugene O'Neill, Bertolt Brecht, Samuel Beckett, Eugène Ionesco and Harold Pinter give new life to the monologue by creatively using it. At the end of the 20th century, the experimental theater gave it a new meaning by expanding the functions of the

## قدرت پنهان تک‌گویی

پژوهشی در پیشینه، انواع و کارکردهای مونولوگ  
عباس علی عzzاتی



monologue.

In the final part of the book, the Persian translation of several prominent monodramas, including "A Night in November", written by Marie Jones, has been added.

## Iranshahr Theater Complex to Host the show Che



**Iran Theater- The play Che written and directed by Mehran Ranjbar will be staged in Iranshahr Theater Complex.**

The show "Che" directed by Mehran Ranjbar, which deals with the debate between Ernesto Che Guevara and CNN anchor Larry King, starring Mehran Ranjbar and Mehdi Yeganeh, will be on stage from July 3rd at 19:00 .

Ernesto "Che" Guevara de la Serna, the controversial Marxist revolutionary and guerrilla leader, was a central figure in the Cuban Revolution, serving as second in command to Fidel Castro.

Larry King, was an American talk-show host whose easygoing interviewing style helped make Larry King Live (1985–2010) one of CNN's longest-running and most popular programs.

The crew: Mehdi Babaei (producer), Raha Jahanshahi (project manager), Alireza Abdul- Karimi (composer and opera singer), Reza Karmizadeh (stage designer), Elham Shabani (costume designer), Hamid Jalali (light designer), Sepas Rezaei (chorographer), Alireza Lajvard (photo and teaser), Rana Zandi (graphics), Fatemeh Babaei (public relations), Borhan Rokni (publicity manager).

## Kazem Nazari on 2023 International Puppet Festival

**Iran Theater- In a message to the 19th International Puppet Festival, the Director General of Dramatic Arts Center and ITI President of Iran, Kazem Nazari wrote: This artistic event presents the traditions, beliefs and messages of Iran's cultural identity.**

The message of Kazem Nazari is as follows:

In the Name of Almighty  
The handmade creations

of any country are symbols and signs of the intellectual currents and mental and social life characteristics of the inhabitants and each one carries the traditions, beliefs and messages of the cultural identity of the people who have brought forward their history in that climate, generation. And they have established their traditional heritage. Among these historical and cultural symbolic creations are figurines and puppets whose appearance, face, their color and the type and extent of their clothes and even the choice of their name express and represent the lines of thought, wishes, hatreds, joys and in general the mental concerns of the people who create and maintain them.

The performance methods of these figures, which are generally performed in "puppet shows"; have the same background and function and convey different messages with different names and charac-



ters.

The character of "Mubarak" has a different identity among the performance methods and puppet characters of ancient and ritual Iran, such as "Khimehashbazi", "Glove", "Shadow game" and...,".

And Mubarak, with blessing and happiness like its name, with fun and originality, frankness and elegance of expression, fulfills both its cultural and ritual role and also plans humorous social critiques, through the closest faces and names to folk literature and archetypes of this cultural land, and with a combination of movement, words and music, he takes the audience to the depths of the mental reserves and background of these noble and emotional people and conveys his message with rhythmic words and songs originating from the music of the people of the mountains, plains, bazaars and alleys. Such an origin and support has now become the

place of new and modern creativity of young Iranian performers, with the presence and guidance of experienced veterans, who present themselves at the 19th Tehran-Mubarak International Puppet Festival.

In another part of his message Kazem Nazari said: A festival that, after several years of delay, has emerged as a pure opportunity to observe and learn and synergize with all the activists and experts in this field. It deserves to be filled with critical interactions and discussions of critics, students, and audiences, full of different viewpoints and ideas that pave the way for utilizing the vast capacities of these puppets and their characters, in the matter of "play-writing" and "variety of presentation".

And in the movement and voice of the figures and puppeteers, the voice will reach the ears of those who are familiar with the subtleties and virtues hidden in the art of drama.

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